METHOD AND APPARATUS TO INCREASE FUNCTIONALITY OF A USER INPUT DEVICE Patent Number: WO9957630 Publication date: 1999-11-11 Inventor(s): SCHNEIDER DAVID T; BANKER ROBERT O; JERDING DEAN F; RODRIGUEZ ARTURO A Applicant(s):: SCIENTIFIC ATLANTA (US) Requested Patent: **WO9957630** Application Number: WO1999US09275 19990429 Priority Number(s): US19980071603 19980501 IPC Classification: G06F3/023 EC Classification: G06F3/023, G06F3/033A1S Equivalents: **Abstract** A method (200) of allowing additional functionality in user input devices (50), such as keys (18) or buttons, based on the

duration of the input by the user, the duration being measured in time, number of repetitions of normal activity, or other basis.

Remote controls and other user input devices have maximized functionality of buttons or keys, while allowing the number of the

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buttons or keys to be minimized.